

Kalamazoo - Pictorial works
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HISTORY ROOM
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A GLIMPSE OF
KALAMAZOO THE BEAUTIFUL



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KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN



THE presence within her gates of friends from afar gives to Kalamazoo a sincere pleasure. Nothing delights the residents of our city so much as to point out to our visitors the scenes and places that we love. We have a deep pride in our city, its people, and its institutions. We want our welcome, our hospitality, to be a warm, living reality. In short, Kalamazoo wants every guest to be glad he came and to want to come again.

With a view of making your short visit with us as pleasant as possible, and making it easy for you to find those things here which are especially interesting to you, the people of Kalamazoo have caused this little booklet to be compiled.



South Burdick Street, Looking North

It may be interesting to know something of the history of the city you are honoring. In 1829 a pioneer named Titus Bronson plodded westward from Detroit, intending to settle in lands beyond the Mississippi.

One day he traveled later than usual so that it was quite dark when he pitched his camp upon a hill overlooking the country for many miles around. When he arose the next morning, he gazed upon a panorama the like of which he had never seen. Below him for miles in either direction lay a green valley through which wound, like a silver ribbon, a beautiful little river.

So charmed was he with the outlook that all thoughts of the magic land of which he had heard, that lay beyond the "Father of Waters" passed from his mind, and he chose the fertile valley for his home.



Western State Normal School

So here, where the Indians had long made their favorite camp, Titus Bronson made a home for the white man. For many years he dwelt with his people, the copper-colored natives his daily visitors. From time to time, other families stopped here in their westward travels, enchanted with the valley of the Kalamazoo.

The odd name with its explosive final syllable, has always fallen merrily upon the ears of the whole country. Many are the legends of its origin. The accepted one is that it is an Indian word signifying the "Place of the Boiling Pot." In the valley there were then, and still are, hundreds of little springs from which bubbled the purest and most delightful water. Small wonder it was to our red predecessors before us, a chosen land.

In the very heart of the city, one of the mysterious mounds still lies, mute evidence that that other people known, for want of a better name, as the "Mound-Builders," also found the valley of the Kalamazoo a delightful home.

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Postoffice, Library, and Park Club

Kalamazoo early took its place as one of the main depots of the transcontinental highway. The early trails through the city later became the great territorial road, along which now spin thousands of high-powered motor vehicles. What a sight for good old Titus Bronson if he could but return to look at it today.

Kalamazoo is ideally situated. From her fertile valley on either side of the Kalamazoo, the hills rise up to the rich prairies of the highlands. These make a magnificent setting today for some of the city's stately institutions of learning and magnificent homes.

On the main arteries of travel, whether steam, electric, or public highway, both north and



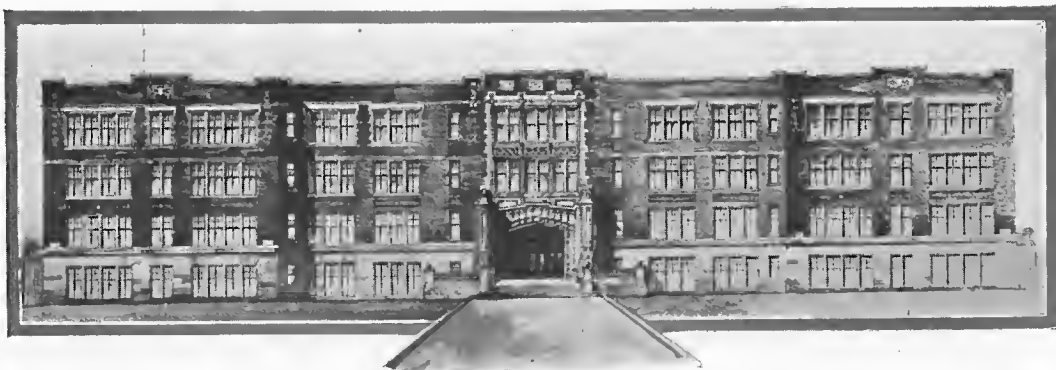
Nazareth Academy

south and east and west, Kalamazoo at once took and has always maintained its place as the principal city of southwestern Michigan.

Her seven lines of transportation radiate like the spokes of a wheel, in twelve different directions. Over these steel arteries flows the commerce of a kingdom.

Twenty west-bound, nineteen east-bound, sixteen north-bound, and fifteen south-bound trains give the city a total of seventy-one trains a day.

Over the electric line race the fast interurban cars to Battle Creek, Jackson, Albion, Ypsilanti, and Detroit, with branches from those points to scores of other important cities throughout



New Central High School

the State. A new line to Grand Rapids is just being opened to traffic, and other distant lines have settled upon this city as their terminus.

With this service, the surrounding territory, rich in its agricultural and horticultural wealth, looks to Kalamazoo as its only city. The result has been to build up in this city a splendid array of mercantile establishments and hotel facilities which are unequaled by any other commercial city of its size in the country.

Attracted by the wonderful natural resources of the region and Kalamazoo's great opportunities for home-making, two hundred and forty manufacturing establishments with an output of twenty-five millions of dollars, have grown up.

In one line, that of making book paper, such as that upon which this is printed, Kalamazoo has taken the lead. This is one of the most interesting industries in the world, and it is a rare treat to follow the process through one of our vast mills, of turning a cast-off shirt into the finest paper used by the United States Government.



The South Side—Ten Years ago a Farm

It has been the intention to make this little book interesting to the reader, and dry statistics are of interest only to those who help to make them. The purpose of the book is to tell you briefly of the points of interest in our city and how to reach them during your short visit to Kalamazoo.

Bronson Park, part of the original home of Titus Bronson, and by him bequeathed in perpetual trust to the people of Kalamazoo for a park. Noted for its "mound," its lack of "Keep-off-the-Grass" signs, and its location in the very heart of the city.

Milham Park, a natural woods of rare beauty through which winds the beautiful Portage. Reached through "Lover's Lane," a beautiful boulevard-lane completely canopied by the boughs of old oak trees. Take the Portage car line to the end.



Country Club and White's Lake

Recreation Park and Riverview Baseball Park. Here is staged each year the Grand Circuit Races, at which the finest horses in the country are shown. Take Washington Avenue cars.

Kalamazoo State Hospital for the Insane, with its great natural park surrounding the well-kept institution buildings. Here are housed nearly two thousand unfortunates who are given the kindest care and attention. Take Oakland Drive cars.

Western Michigan Normal School, a million-dollar institution, and still growing. A new Science Hall, central heating plant, and great campus are under way. This school is located on the very edge of the hill overlooking the city. A view of Kalamazoo from the portico of this institution will never be forgotten. Take Oakland Drive cars.

Kalamazoo College, one of the oldest in the State of Michigan. Has a splendid campus and many acres of natural woods. Take Oakland Drive cars.

Kalamazoo Country Club, on the hill overlooking beautiful White's Lake. Take Oakland Drive cars or an automobile through the magnificent Bronson Boulevard, a winding drive of rare beauty and attractiveness.

Oakwood Park, a pleasure resort of woods and water—a clean, wholesome amusement resort. Take Oakland Drive cars.

Nazareth Academy, a great institution of learning conducted under the auspices of the Catholic Church. Out Gull Road.

Celery Fields, always a place of interest to one who has never seen them. On South Burdick or West North Streets; take Patterson or Rose Street cars.

Gull Lake, one of the most beautiful bodies of water in Michigan and the largest in this part of the State. Take interurban car, or by automobile out Gull Road.

Rose Street-North Street car line:

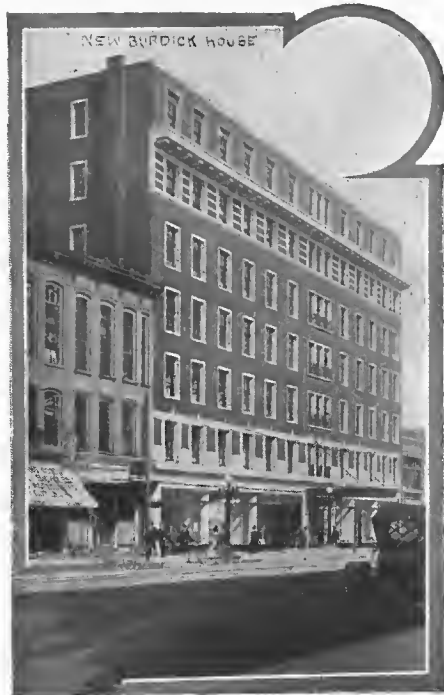
Bryant Paper Mill, one of the largest book-paper mills in the world.

The celery fields.

The public library.

The Methodist and Presbyterian Churches.

The city water works.



Burdick Hotel and Arcade

Bronson Park.

Through the business center of the city.

The Michigan Central Depot.



West Street Park.

Through the heart of the city.

Patterson Street car line:

Celery fields.

Standard Paper Company.

East Main-West Main car line:

Henderson Park, a new home subdivision.

Mountain Home Cemetery.

The Pythian Castle.

The Y. M. C. A.

The Baptist Church.

The Henderson-Ames Company, one of the largest regalia factories.

Through the business center of the city.

The G. R. & I. depot.

The C. K. & S. depot.

The Kalamazoo River.

The Commonwealth Power Company.

The Kalamazoo Paper Company.

The Riverview Coated Paper Company.

Riverside Cemetery.

West Street-Washington Avenue car line:

Crane Park with a splendid view of the city.

Bronson Boulevard.

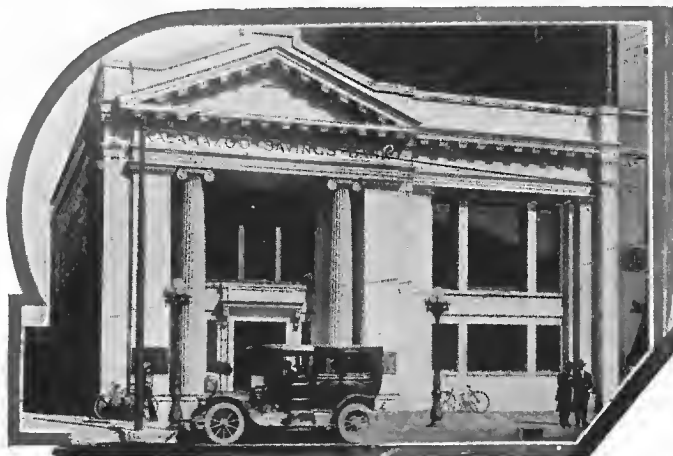
Borgess Hospital.

The High School.

Portage Street-Oakland Drive car line:
Country Club.
White's Lake.
Oakwood Park.
Michigan State Hospital for the
Insane.
Western Michigan Normal School.
Kalamazoo College.
Through the business center of the
city.
Milham Park.



Van Deusen Public Library





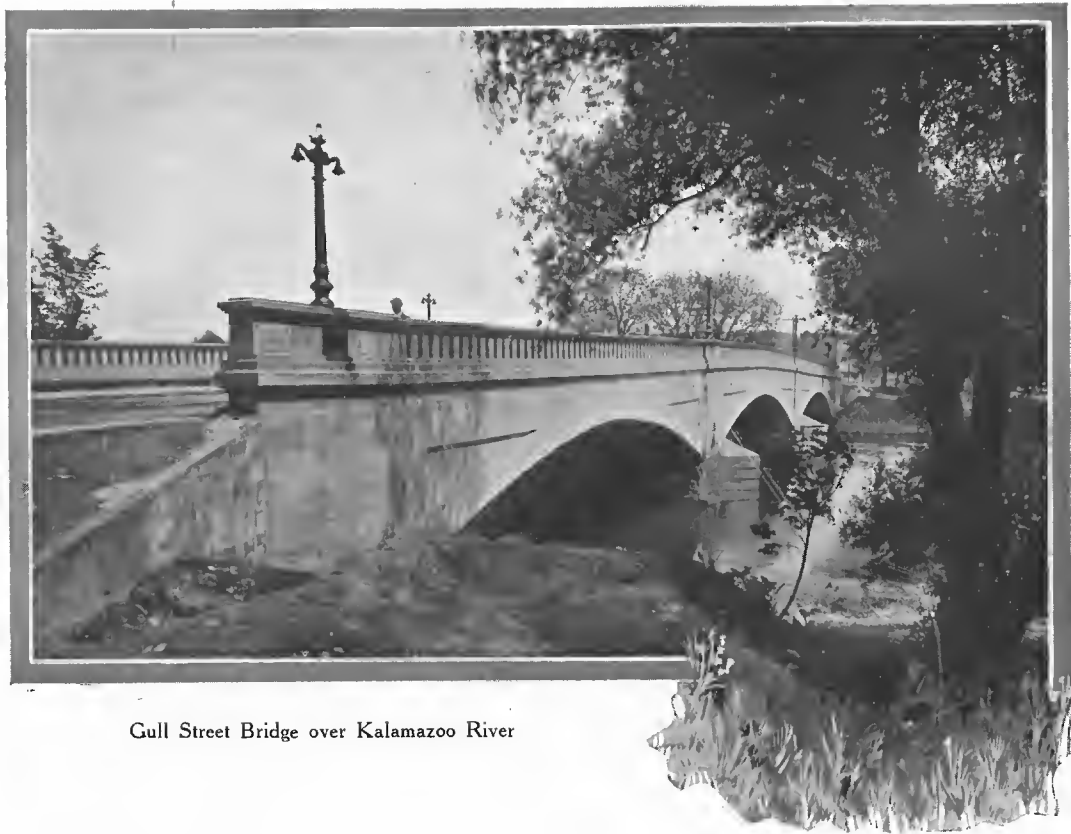
Recreation Park

Here is one of the finest dirt tracks in the country. Many records have been smashed on the Kalamazoo oval. This city is on the Grand Circuit, the leading series of events in horse racing in the United States. Here gather each year the big men and the big horses in the game.



One of the
Famous
Kalamazoo
Celery Fields

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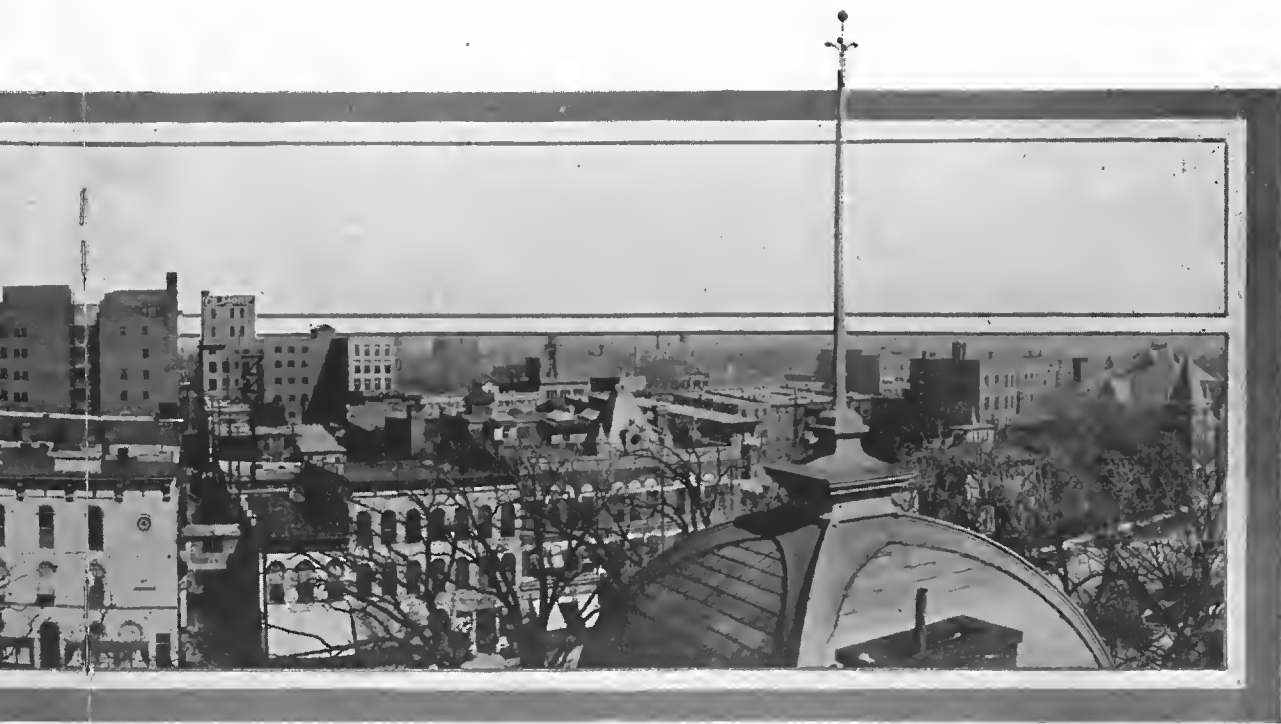
Gull Street Bridge over Kalamazoo River



The Beautiful Kalamazoo River

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Kalamazoo is the capital of Fisherman's Paradise. Within fifty miles are a hundred lakes. Each railroad, steam and electric, touches a dozen favorite fishing haunts of the people of Kalamazoo. All of these lakes are accessible, beautiful, and offer prime sport.

Gull Lake is reached by the inter-urban cars of the Michigan United Traction Co. It is the largest lake in this section of the State, and is almost completely surrounded by hotels and summer cottages. This is the Mecca for nature-loving people each summer from Kansas to Pennsylvania, from Minnesota to Kentucky.

Winding into Gull Lake is the famous "Lover's Lane." No prettier spot than this exists. The trees interlace their boughs over the winding brook and absolute silence reigns supreme save for the "splash, splash" of the startled frogs as your boat floats slowly on. Through the old stone bridge, the brook winds until it ends abruptly at the old mill-dam.



Lovers' Lane, Gull Lake



Midnight at Gull Lake

renewed by planting annually thousands and thousands of desirable fish. Brook and rainbow trout are planted each year in the spring brooks.

Whether you love swimming, canoeing, motor-boating, dancing, or simply lazying-it in the shade, Gull Lake has no superior.

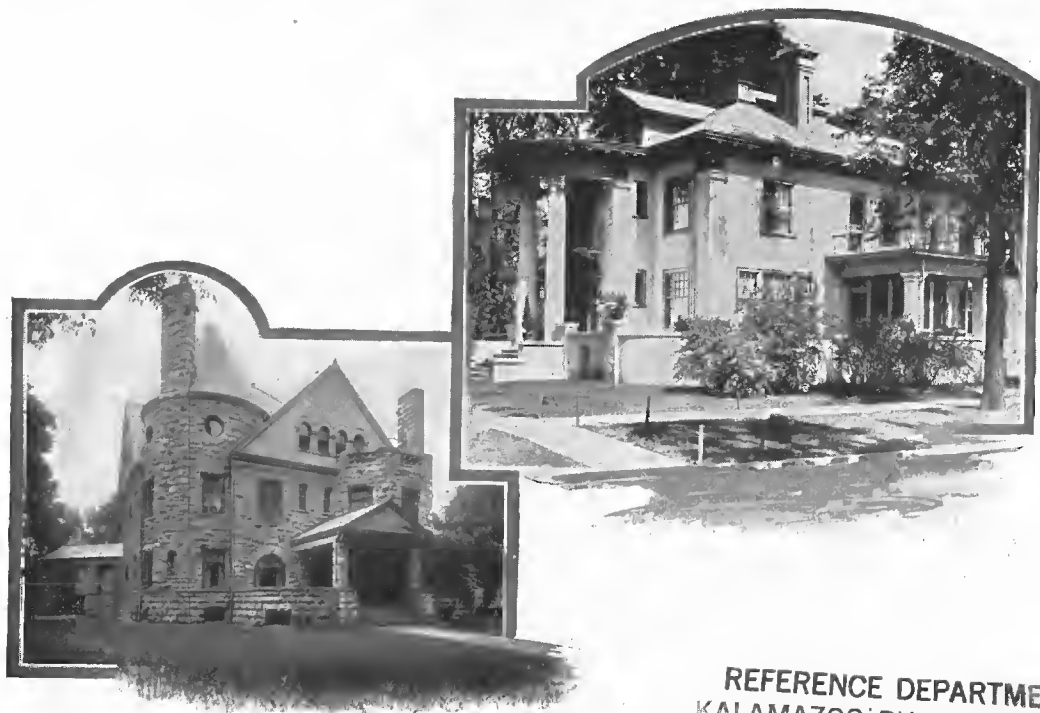
Along fifty miles of the C. K. & S. track lie fifty lakes, all noted for their fish. Wall Lake, Crooked Lake, Pine Lake, Fair Lake, Wilkinson Lake, Guernsey Lake, and Long Lake are as familiar to the sport-loving people of Kalamazoo as their own dooryards. Large and small mouth bass, pickerel, wall-eyed pike, calico bass, perch, and blue-gills literally swarm these waters. The supply is being constantly



Boat Landing at Gull Lake



Kalamazoo is a city of homes. If statistics were available, this city would be found near the top of them in the proportion of home owners. Subdivisions have been laid out in every direction from the city, and comfortable, modern homes have been erected and sold to the workingman upon monthly payments little larger than rent.



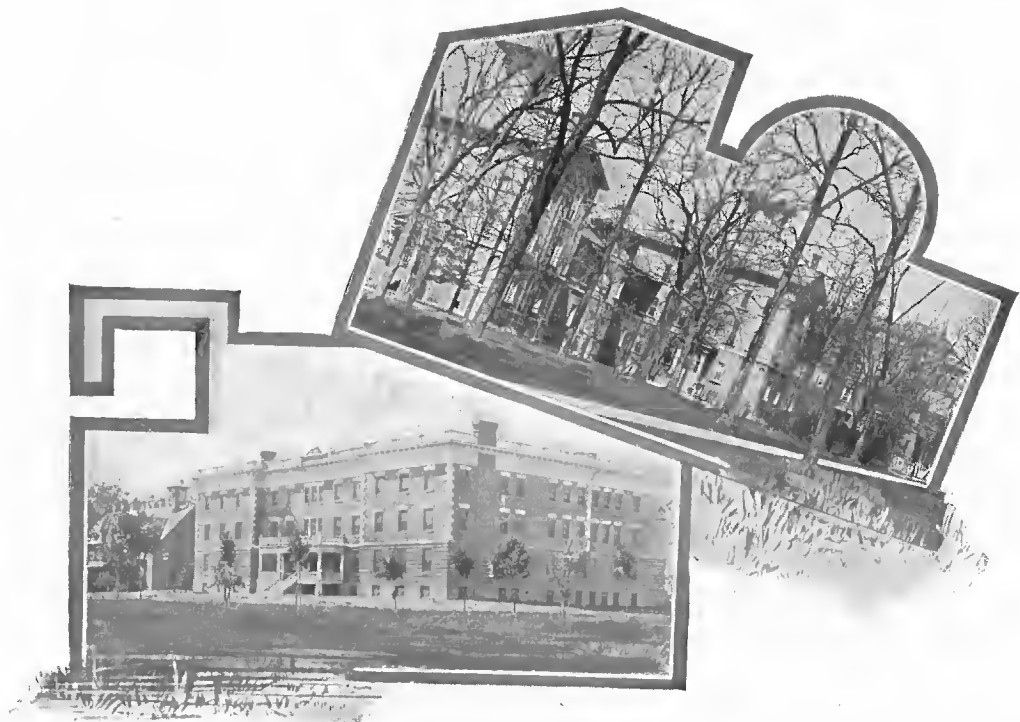
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Borgess Hospital



Bronson Hospital



Michigan State Hospital for the Insane



ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL







Bryant Paper Co.—One of the Largest in the World

Kalamazoo's industries are famous all over the world. Ideal local conditions, splendid water and business arrangements, low-priced and adequate supplies of electricity and gas, unequaled transportation facilities in a city of this size, have all combined to make this a great manufacturing center.

The State labor bureau takes cognizance of more than two hundred and thirty industrial concerns in Kalamazoo. In importance the paper industry leads all others. More than 1,200 tons is the daily output of the local mills—eighty carloads.

Among the articles made here that have become nationally known are the following: automobile accessories and parts, carriages, cutters, gas arc lamps, playing cards, games, electric lens signs, labels and stickers, celerytone, engines and boilers, drugs and pharmaceutical supplies, railroad supplies and devices, enameled tanks, mandolin-guitars, caskets, steel springs, lodge regalia and supplies, water heaters, envelopes, corsets, loose-leaf binders, washing machines, paper boxes, sleds, swings, folding chairs, soap, stationery, stoves, tanks, silos, calendars, metal signboards, windmills, garments, fishing tackle and sporting goods, trolley wheels, essences, motors, and automobile trucks.



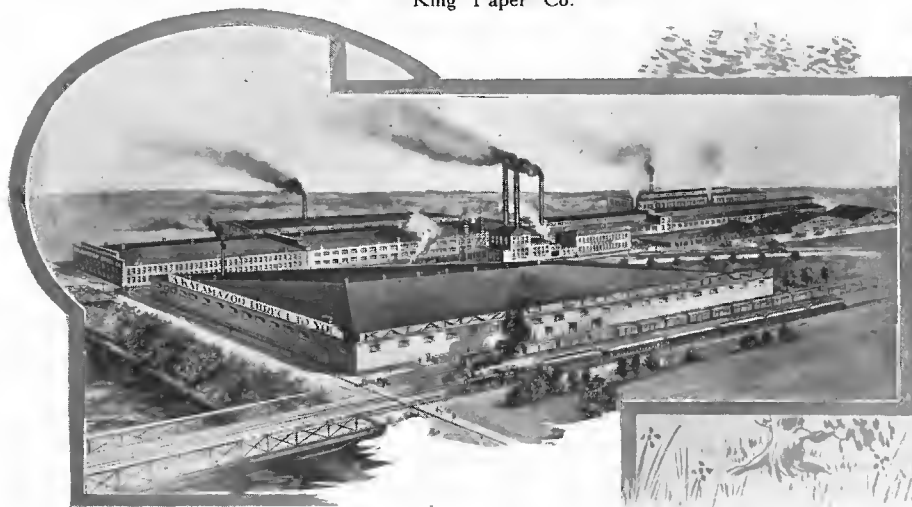
Riverview Coated Paper Co.



Kalamazoo Paper Co.



King Paper Co.





Kalamazoo College—College and Campus



G. R. & I. Depot



M. C. Depot



Oakwood Park and Lake View

KALAMAZOO

By GEORGE FITCH, of the *Saturday Evening Post*

Kalamazoo is like New York and London and Chicago and Shanghai and St. Petersburg in one important respect. There is only one of it.

The man who invented Kalamazoo's name didn't patent it, but he was safe enough. No one has stolen it. For seventy-five years Kalamazoo has struggled along and never has any ambitious young city annoyed it by calling itself "New Kalamazoo" or "Kalamazooville" or "Kalamazoo Center."

Thousands of people who don't know whether Kalamazoo is a breakfast food or a new kind of disease have murmured its name lovingly and have taken it home to try on their pianolas. Everybody is familiar with Kalamazoo, but few know whether it is an institution or is played like a piccolo.

As a matter of fact, Kalamazoo is one of Michigan's best-known cities, and is not otherwise peculiar. It began life as "Bronson" in the early '30's, and in a few years had become large and strong enough to bear its present name. At once the city became famous. Today, travelers who pass through Jackson, Grand Rapids, and other Michigan metropolises without coming up out of their magazines to breathe, poke their heads out of the car window when "Kalamazoo" is called and exclaim eagerly: "Dear me. Here's Kalamazoo. Let us see if it looks like it."

Kalamazoo has 35,000 people [50,000, George], most of whom manufacture for a living and the rest of whom sell celery. Raising celery is the favorite diversion of the farmers around Kalamazoo. If it were not for Kalamazoo, the banqueters of the land would have to go hungry until the first course were served.

Kalamazoo has an insane asylum inhabited chiefly by actors who have tried to get up new jokes on it and also a large variety of colleges drawn hither by the exceptional facilities for a college yell which the city's name affords. It is situated in Kalamazoo County, and on the banks of the Kalamazoo River.

Quiet and unnoticed towns should consider Kalamazoo and get a little ragtime into their names. It is the cheapest known form of advertising.

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